(b) the number of schemes under each of the two categories;

(c) the institutional mechanism to implement such schemes;

(d) the modes of financial delegation and financial sharing with the States under the above two categories; and

(e) the monitoring and evaluation mechanism for Central schemes and Centrally sponsored schemes, respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) (a) and (c) The Centre Sector (CS) Schemes are those which deal with the subjects in the Union List and are funded and implemented by Central Ministry/Department or its agency. Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) are those schemes which do not pertain to the subjects in the Union List but which are funded directly by Central Ministries/Departments and are implemented by States or their agencies irrespective of their pattern of financing.

(b) There were 993 Central Sector Schemes and 99 Centrally Sponsored Schemes in operation during 2007-08 as per Statement of Budget Estimates (SBEs).

(d) The percentage share of State and Central contribution in the Centrally Sponsored Schemes varies from scheme to scheme depending upon the nature and the objectives to be achieved. Central Sector Schemes are fully funded by the Union Government.

(e) Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms have been created at different levels of Central and State Governments as part of the programme guidelines of each scheme.

Threat posed by climatic changes

*171. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the serious threat posed by the current climate changes like extremes of temperatures, skewed distribution of rainfall etc; and

(b) whether any study is being carried out to estimate the consequence for tropical countries, particularly India and measures required to ensure food security and sufficiency in food grains, dairy, fruit and vegetables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Government of India are seized of the various concerns that may arise due to climate change. The Government has also set up an Expert Committee on Impacts of Climate Change. The Terms of Reference of the Committee are as under:

(i) To study the impacts of anthropogenic climate change on India.

(ii) To identify the measures that we may have to take in the future in relation to addressing vulnerability to anthropogenic climate change impacts.

(iii) Any other matter relevant to (i) and (ii) above.

Further a Council on Climate Change, chaired by Prime Minister, has been set up. This Council shall coordinate national action for assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change. The focus of the Committee would be to:

(i) Evolve a coordinated response to issues relating to climate change at the national level;

(ii) Provide oversight for formulation of action plans in the area of assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change;

(iii) Periodically monitor key policy decisions.

High Acid Content in rainwater

*172. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(b) whether it is a fact that a study conducted by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has found high acid content in rainwater in Pune and Nagpur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The India Meteorological Department (IMD) maintains a network of Global Atmospheric Watch (GAW) stations that follow the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) norms. Rainwater samples collected at 10 locations are analyzed regularly and this data is available for about 28 years now.

The study mentioned in the question was conducted using this data and statistical analysis has shown an increasing acidity of the rain samples collected from Pune and Nagpur. However, the rain water at these places is still in the alkaline range due to the dominance of neutralizing agents in the dust.

Celebration of Gandhi Jayanti

* 173 KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan for Indian Missions to celebrate Gandhi Jayanti in a special manner in view of the United Nations declaring Gandhi Jayanti as International Day of Non-violence; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to involve friends interested in Mahatma Gandhi in every country on that day?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On June 15, 2007 the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution on 'International Day of Non-Violence' piloted by India with the co-sponsorship of 142 countries to annually observe and